

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/839,354

Examiner

ANH H DO

Applicant(s)

YOGESHWAR ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment on 10/26/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 4/20/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


ANH HONG DO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks (page, 16, last paragraph; page 18, third paragraph; page 20, first paragraph; page 21, last paragraph to page 22, first paragraph) filed 10/26/2004, with respect to claims 1-27 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 13-18, 23, 25, and 27 and objection of claims 2, 5, 9-12, 19-22, 14, and 26 have been withdrawn.

2. Claims 1-27 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

* The objected claims 2, 5, 9-12, 19-22, 14, and 26 have been amended to include all of limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims;

* The present invention provides a new method and system for processing image data for storage and retrieval, which can eliminate the need for repeated capture of the same material for transfer to a multiplicity of end-user formats and the need to store the source material and/or copies of the material in a plurality of application formats (page 11, last paragraph – page 12, first paragraph).

Particularly, the new method and system comprise the following features, which the prior art taken either singly or in combination does not teach:

- storing with the first encoded image data encoding complexity level information indicating at least one determined level of encoding complexity associated with the first encoded image data (see independent claim 1);

- storing with the first encoded image data encoding complexity level information indicating at least one determined level of encoding complexity associated with the first encoded image data; and determining at least one encoding parameter to be used to re-encode the decoded image data as a function of the retrieved encoding complexity level information (see independent claim 2);

- storing with the first encoded image data encoding complexity level information indicating at least one determined level of encoding complexity associated with the first encoded image data; and determining at least one encoding parameter to be used to re-encode the decoded image data as a function of the retrieved image content description information (see independent claim 5);

- storing with the first encoded image data encoding complexity level information indicating at least one determined level of encoding complexity associated with the first encoded image data; and selecting the first encoding format from a plurality of supported encoding formats, as a function of the determined level of encoding complexity (see independent claim 9);

- performing an automated scene analysis operation on said image data to be encoded to generate image content information, said image content information indicating the type of scene depicted by said image data to be encoded; and storing the

generated image content information in a file with the first encoded image data (see independent claim 18);

- selecting a second encoding format to be used for outputting images represented by said encoded image data as a function of at least one of said generated content information and said additional content information (see independent claim 19);

- means for receiving additional image content information from a user of the system; and a storage device for storing the first encoded image data, said generated image content information and said additional content image information in a file (see independent claim 23);

- means for selecting, as a function of at least one of said generated content information and said additional content information, a second encoding format to be used for outputting images represented by said first encoded image data (see independent claim 24);

- a file wrapper module for incorporating an encoding complexity level identifier indicating the encoding complexity level assigned to said data to be encoded and said encoded data into a single file (see independent claim 25);

- a file wrapper module for incorporating an encoding complexity level identifier indicating the encoding complexity level assigned to said data to be encoded and said encoded data into a single file; and a preview module coupled to said encoder and said analysis module for displaying a subset of the images represented by encoded data generated by said encoder, the displayed images being selected for display as a

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function of encoding complexity level information associated with said encoded data (see independent claim 26).

Contact Information

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANH H DO whose telephone number is 571-272-7433. The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4-9.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DAVID K MOORE can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

April 18, 2005.



**ANH HONG DO
PRIMARY EXAMINER**